

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 /084 W
-----002578 231559Z /47

R 231150Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5924
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 3229

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, WB, BQG
SUBJECT: PLANNED FDP MEETINGS IN WEST BERLIN

REF: USBERLIN 3034

SUMMARY: DECEMBER 20 DIE WELT REPORTED FDP PLANS SERIES OF MEETINGS IN BERLIN BY LANDTAG CAUCUSES AND INVOLVING INTERIOR MINISTER MAIHOFFER. SOVIETS VERY LIKELY WILL PROTEST. REQUEST EMBASSY BONN DEVELOP FURTHER INFORMATION. END SUMMARY.

1. DECEMBER 20 DIE WELT REPORTED THAT FDP LANDTAG CAUCUSES FROM BREMEN, HAMBURG AND HESSE PLAN TO MEET IN WEST BERLIN IN 1978, AND ON EACH OCCASION MEMBERS OF THE CAUCUSES PLAN TO VISIT EAST BERLIN. WHETHER SUCH VISITS ARE PLANNED AS GROUP ACTIVITY THROUGH A GDR TRAVEL AGENCY, OR ON AN
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INDIVIDUAL BASIS APPARENTLY HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.

2. IN ADDITION, ACCORDING TO WELT, THE CHAIRMEN OF ALL FDP LANDTAG CAUCUSES IN THE FRG, THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR INTERIOR MAIHOFFER (FDP), AND THE FDP CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENT, WOLFGANG MISCHNICK, PLAN TO MEET IN BERLIN JANUARY 13 AND 14. THE FOLLOWING TOPICS ARE REPORTEDLY

TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

A. NEW REMUNERATION PROVISIONS FOR MEMBERS OF DISTRICT PARLIAMENTS;

B. QUESTIONS OF THE FEDERAL INQUIRY COMMITTEE "VERFASSUNGS-REFORM";

C. THE STILL CONTROVERSIAL UNIFORM POLICE LAW FOR THE FRG AND ALL STATES;

D. CO-DETERMINATION IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED ENTERPRISES.

3. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT SOVIETS USED INSTANCE OF FDP LOWER SAXONY LANDTAG MEETING IN BERLIN TO DELIVER RATHER FAR-RANGING PROTEST TO ALLIES ON NOVEMBER 29 (REFTEL). IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS AT SOCIAL GATHERINGS SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY TYUTYUNOV COMMENTED TO MISSION OFFICER THAT SOVIETS ARE PRESENTLY TROUBLED BY A NUMBER OF TOPICS RELATING TO FRG-BERLIN TIES, BUT THE TWO HE FOUND MOST UPSETTING WERE THE FEDERAL PROSECUTOR'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE LORENZ TRIAL AND THE CONSTANT MEETING OF "LAND" BODIES IN WEST BERLIN, WHICH IN SOVIET VIEW ARE CLEARLY PROVOCATIVE ACTS DESIGNED TO FURTHER THE INTEGRATION OF WEST BERLIN INTO THE FRG.

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4. THE PROPOSED MEETINGS OF THE LANDTAG FRAKTIONEN AND THE JANUARY 13-14 SESSION OF CAUCUS CHAIRMEN WITH FEDERAL MINISTER MAIHOFFER ARE NOT IN VIOLATION OF THE QA OR ANY OTHER KNOWN AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO BERLIN. HOWEVER, AS WE ALL KNOW, MINISTER MAIHOFFER IS PRONE TO GRANDSTANDING IN BERLIN. SINCE WE ARE LIKELY TO BE FACED WITH THE NUISANCE OF A PROTEST FROM THE SOVIETS ON THIS MATTER, PROBABLY BEFORE WE HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO THEIR LAST DEMARCHE, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE GOOD TO INFORM OURSELVES IN ADVANCE ABOUT THE MAIHOFFER GATHERING. THIS COULD BEST BE DONE IN THE BONN GROUP, AND THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION MIGHT INCLUDE SOME DELICATE HINTS THAT THE ALLIES WOULD BE INTERESTED IN AN ADVANCE TEXT OF ANY SPEECHES THE MINISTER PLANNED TO MAKE IN BERLIN ON THE SUBJECT OF EXTENDING FEDERAL POLICE AUTHORITY OVER THE LAENDER (ITEM C, PARA 2).

5. FYI. THERE IS A FRENCH DRAFT REPLY TO THE NOVEMBER 29 COMPLAINT, WHICH SO FAR WE AND THE FRENCH HAVE APPROVED.

END FYI. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL03229
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770479-1161
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771219/aaaaaqcv.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USBERLIN 3034
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 133617
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PLANNED FDP MEETINGS IN WEST BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, WB, BQG
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c4740efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009